

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02457

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E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: AORG, PERS
SUBJECT: UN PERSONNEL: CONVERSATION OF AMBASSADOR
WELLS WITH USYG DAVIDSON

1. SUMMARY. AMB. WELLS CALLED ON UNSYG FOR ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT GEORGE DAVIDSON JUNE 8 TO DISCUSS A NUMBER OF PENDING PERSONNEL QUESTIONS. CONVERSATION COVERED CURRENT STATUS OF APPOINTMENTS TO FILL DIRECTOR OF UN BUDGET DIVISION AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, AMONG OTHER MATTERS (SEPTELS). AFTER AMB. WELLS' DEPARTURE TO KEEP ANOTHER APPOINTMENT, MISOFF RAISED WITH DAVIDSON EXTENSION OF W.H. ZIEHL, REASSIGNMENT OF ESA DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE, W.H. GOODKIND, AND CURRENT STATUS OF RESTRUCTURING ARRANGEMENTS. DAVIDSON INDICATED DESIRE TO DISCUSS HOTTELET APPOINTMENT AT SOME FUTURE, MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME. END SUMMARY

2. DIRECTOR UN BUDGET DIVISION: IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM AMB. WELLS, DAVIDSON SAID WALDHEIM WAS TO HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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APPEALED TO FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER LOUIS DE GUIRINGAUD TO WITHDRAW CANDIDATE FRENCH NOMINATED WHEN TOLD IN JANUARY THAT DURAND (CURRENT CHIEF OF POLITICAL, LEGAL AND COMMON SERVICES SECTION OF BUDGET DIVISION) NOT ACCEPTABLE AS SUCCESSOR TO LAVAU. DAVIDSON SAID SECRETARIAT HAS GOOD EVIDENCE THAT THIS NOMINEE, WHO COMES OUT OF REVENUE SIDE OF FRENCH MINISTRY OF FINANCE

AND HAS NO BUDGET EXPERIENCE, IS CANDIDATE OF FRENCH MISSION IN NEW YORK AND IS NOT STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY. DAVIDSON, STRESSING SENSITIVITY OF THIS INFORMATION, SAID THIS INDICATION COMES FROM LE COMPTE, WHO ALSO INDICATED FRENCH HAVE NO ONE BETTER QUALIFIED TO NOMINATE. DAVIDSON SAID SYG HAD PROMISED NOT TO ACT UPON MATTER WHILE DAVIDSON ABSENT ON VISIT TO CHINA DURING PREVIOUS THREE WEEKS, AND SO FAR AS DAVIDSON KNEW THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE. HE SAID THE SITUATION IS SOMEWHAT COMPLICATED BECAUSE DIRECTOR OF FRENCH BUDGET HAD WRITTEN FRENCH AMBASSADOR LEPRETTE ATTESTING TO FRENCH CANDIDATE'S COMPLETE ABILITY TO HANDLE BUDGETARY AFFAIRS.

3. DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT: AMB. WELLS RECALLED US NOMINEES FOR THIS POSITION AND INQUIRED ABOUT CURRENT STATUS OF APPOINTMENTS TO NEW ASYG POSITIONS CREATED BY RESTRUCTURING. DAVIDSON RECALLED THESE NOMINATIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED ON EVE OF HIS DEPARTURE FOR CHINA A LITTLE OVER THREE WEEKS AGO. AMB. WELLS SAID ALL FOUR HAD BEEN INTERVIEWED BY DJERMAKOYE. DAVIDSON SAID THAT SHOULD SYG NOT NOMINATE MAURICE WILLIAMS AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL, WILLIAMS WOULD BE AN EXCEPTIONALLY STRONG CANDIDATE FOR ASYG FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT. WE DESCRIBED TO DAVIDSON RIGOROUS CONFIDENTIAL

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REVIEW PROCEDURE TO WHICH ALL CANDIDATES HAD BEEN SUBJECTED BY DEPARTMENT AND WHICH PRODUCED FINAL SLATE OF NOMINEES AND REITERATED CANDIDACY OF WILLIAMS FOR WFC POST, NOT OTC. DAVIDSON ASKED WHETHER WALDHEIM'S ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT RAFEEUDDIN AHMED HAD INTERVIEWED SLATE AND WAS TOLD HE HAD NOT.

5. RESTRUCTURING: ON OTHER POSITIONS, DAVIDSON INDICATED THAT INDIA HAS NOMINATED AT LEAST THREE AND POSSIBLY FOUR CANDIDATES FOR ASYG IN RESEARCH AND PLANNING AREA, BUT CHOICE OF USYG RIPERT IS NOT AMONG THOSE WHOM INDIANS HAVE PUT FORWARD. DAVIDSON SAID, CPC CHAIRMAN HANSEN (DENMARK) IS LIKELY TO BE NAMED TO THE OTHER ASYG POSITION UNDER RIPERT UNLESS WALDHEIM IS FRIGHTENED BY "EC 9 ANGLE." DAVIDSON WAS ASKED ABOUT APPOINTMENTS TO IMMEDIATE STAFF OF DIRECTOR GENERAL DADZIE AND WAS REMINDED THAT US IS INTERESTED IN NOMINATING CANDIDATES FOR ONE OF THESE HIGH LEVEL POSITIONS. DAVIDSON SAID THESE APPOINTMENTS WILL BE HANDLED BY DADZIE PERSONALLY.

6. RESTRUCTURING ARRANGEMENTS: DAVIDSON SAID ACABQ

HAS BEGUN HEARINGS ON ADMINISTRATIVE REARRANGEMENTS, UNIT TRANSFERS AND FUND REALLOCATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF RESTRUCTURING. THESE MUST ALL BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 30 WHEN CURRENT ACABQ SESSION ENDS. IN ALL, EIGHT PAPERS ARE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF PREPARATION FOR THESE HEARINGS. NEW STAFFING PATTERN WILL BE ISSUED WHEN HEARING PROCESS HAS BEEN COMPLETED. DAVIDSON SAID HE HOPED ACABQ WOULD NOT INSIST ON SHARP DEFINITION OF ALL REPOSITIONING AND REALLOCATION

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OF FUNDS AT FIRST GO ROUND. HE INDICATED SECRETARIAT STRONGLY DESIRES SOME LATITUDE TO MAKE MINOR ADJUSTMENTS IN ITS ORIGINAL PROPOSALS.

7. EXTENSION OF ZIEHL: DAVIDSON REITERATED PREVIOUS CATEGORICAL ASSISTANCE THAT ZIEHL WILL BE EXTENDED BEYOND RETIREMENT DATE. WITH USUN'S CONCURRENCE, DAVIDSON PLANNED TO EXPLORE WITH UNDP DIRECTOR MORSE FILLING SLOT TO BE VACATED BY SADDLER WITH ZIEHL, IN WHICH CASE ESA/OAFO W.H. GOODKIND WOULD SUCCEED ZIEHL AS DEPUTY CONTROLLER. SADDLER HAS INDEPENDENTLY STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO USUN THAT ZIEHL SUCCEED HIM AT UNDP. LEONARD

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